

Amendment filed September 24, 2004
Serial No. 09/605,855

REMARKS

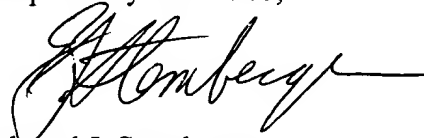
Reconsideration and entry of the above amendments the following remarks are respectfully requested. Claims 1, 11, 12, 15, 16, 21, 26, 27 and 30 have been amended. Claim 5, 8-12, 14, 20, 23-25, and 29 have been canceled. Thus, claims 1-4, 6, 7, 13, 15-19, 21, 22, 26-28 and 30 are pending in the application.

The Examiner indicated that dependent claims 8, 14, 23, and 29 contain allowable subject matter. To place this application in condition for allowance expeditiously, independent claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 8, independent claim 12 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 14, independent claim 16 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 23, and independent claim 27 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 29.

In view of the above, it is believed this application is in condition for allowance, and such a Notice is respectfully solicited.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1130 under Order No. 95-424, and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



Edward J. Stemberger
Registration No. 36,017

Customer Number 23164
(202) 261-1014
Date: September 23, 2004